Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1. (Currently amended) An immunostimulating peptide ~~having~~ comprising an amino acid sequence X_1LYQYMDDV, wherein X_1 is any hydrophobic amino acid.

Claim 2. (Original) The immunostimulating peptide of claim 1, wherein the amino acid sequence is VLYQYMDDV.

Claim 3. (Currently amended) A medicament comprising:

i) the immunostimulating peptide of claim 1; and[,]

ii) a pharmaceutically acceptable excipient.

Claim 4. (Original) The medicament of claim 3, further comprising an immunostimulant.

Claim 5. (Original) A method for preventing or treating an HIV-1 infection comprising administering a dose of the medicament of claim 3 in an amount effective to induce an immune response capable of preventing HIV-1 infection or reducing HIV-1 viral load in a patient.

Claim 6. (Original) The method of claim 5, wherein the patient is a human.

Claim 7. (Currently amended) ~~A~~ An immunostimulating peptide or protein comprising the sequence X_1X_2YQYMDDVX_3 wherein X_1 is a sequence of amino acid residues of between 0 and 200 residues in length; X_2 is any hydrophobic amino acid; and, X_3 is a sequence of amino acid residues of between 0 and 200 residues in length.

Claims 8-16. (Canceled)

Claim 17. (Original) A peptide or protein comprising an amino acid sequence X_1LYQYMDDV, wherein X_1 is any hydrophobic amino acid.

Claim 18. (Currently amended) The peptide or protein of claim 17, further comprising an acetylated ~~N-terminmus~~ N-terminus.

Claim 19. (Original) The peptide or protein of claim 17, further comprising a modification to the C-terminus, the modification selected from the group consisting of amidation, esterfication, and reduction of a C-terminal amino acid carboxyl group.

Claims 20-21. (Canceled)

Claim 22. (New) The immunostimulating peptide of claim 1, wherein the amino acid sequence X_1LYQYMDDV is conjugated to a heterologous molecule to form a fusion molecule.

Claim 23. (New) The immunostimulating peptide of claim 22, wherein the heterologous molecule comprises an amino acid sequence for an HIV-1 viral protein.

Claim 24. (New) The immunostimulating peptide of claim 22, wherein the molecule comprises a glycolipid, a glycoprotein, a lipoprotein, or a nucleoprotein.

Claim 25. (New) The immunostimulating peptide of claim 22, further comprising an amino acid sequence for an immunostimulating carrier protein.

Claim 26. (New) The immunostimulating peptide of claim 22, wherein the heterologous molecule comprises a T helper peptide.

Claim 27. (New) The immunostimulating peptide of claim 26, further comprising a spacer molecule linking the immunostimulating peptide to the T helper peptide.

Claim 28. (New) The immunostimulating peptide of claim 1, wherein the immunostimulatory peptide is prepared synthetically.

Claim 29. (New) The immunostimulating peptide of claim 1, wherein the immunostimulatory peptide is prepared recombinantly.

Claim 30. (New) The immunostimulating peptide of claim 1, wherein the amino acid sequence is YLYQYMDDV.

Claim 31. (New) The immunostimulating peptide of claim 1, pulsed onto a dentritic cell.

Claim 32. (New) The method of claim 5, wherein the patient is a primate.

Claim 33. (New) An immunostimulating peptide consisting of an amino acid sequence X_1LYQYMDDV, wherein X_1 is any hydrophobic amino acid.

Claim 34. (New) The immunostimulating peptide of claim 33, wherein the amino acid sequence is VLYQYMDDV.

Claim 35. (New) The immunostimulating peptide of claim 33, wherein the amino acid sequence is YLYQYMDDV.

Claim 36. (New) The immunostimulating peptide of claim 33, wherein the immunostimulatory peptide is prepared synthetically.

Claim 37. (New) The immunostimulating peptide of claim 33, wherein the immunostimulatory peptide is prepared recombinantly.

Claim 38. (New) The immunostimulating peptide of claim 33, pulsed onto a dentritic cell.